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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) DATE: 4/12/68

FROM : FRANK V. HITT, SAC

SUBJECT: MURKIN

As of opening of business, 4/12/68, we have the following assignments:

Four men back in the neighborhood where car abandoned. They are looking for all info concerning person who abandoned auto. (SAs PALFI, TACKITT, LEWIS and CIECKA).

We have four men starting a check of motels in the general area where the car abandoned, the check to spread from that point. (Being coordinated by SA JAMES J. ROSE.)

IC BUD DAVIS checking Bureau of Vital Statistics for possible birth records on suspect GALT or any variation of name.

The examination of the car for additional evidence is continuing. This includes removal of the wheels, examination of the underside of the car and related examination.

Airline coverage is to be expanded to include all departures from Atlanta starting with morning of 4/5 through 4/10/68, under names and variations thereof. SA KEEL responsible for coordinating airlines check, which also will cover reservations and manifests on all airlines. KEEL to be assisted by SAs RENAGHAN and PERRY.

Used car purchases in the logical area are being checked by SAs REYNOLDS and LANGSFELD.

SAs RACKLEFF and BARRETT continuing check of all cab companies for pickup of passenger in area of abandonment.

SA REYNOLDS instructed to determine from APD Officer R. A. DAVIS, which officers from the PD had been in the car and whether any prints were involved. It was pointed out elimination prints would probably be necessary.

FVH:lcc
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44-2386-227

SEARCHED ... INDEXED ...
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FBI—ATLANTA

AT 44-2386

CONVERSATION BETWEEN ASAC KYLE CLARK, CHICAGO, AND SAC HITT: (9:DO A.M., 4/12/68)

HITT: Did they tell you they found two pieces of styrofoam-type packing material?

CLARK: Do they have dimensions of any impressions?

HITT: We sent all materials to Lab and they could give you further info re this. We found an automatic camera trip, an air release shutter in original package, bearing name "PRINZ", made in Japan. We also found pieces of Kleenex box with the name of two girls from Los Angeles and the address which turned out to be GALT's address in Los Angeles. This was his address as late as February. We have separated GALT from VERNON. They know where VERNON is in LA.

CLARK: About what he made up here...he had a return to him in a blue-type envelop. Did you find anymore correspondence?

HITT: Negative, car was clean.

CLARK: Were there any extra holes for possible radio transmittal other than commercial?

HITT: Negative. We're having it checked now to determine if radio in car actually commercial radio. We'll call you back on that.

CLARK: They had a fictitious call from Memphis about the Mustang and that is why we were in favor of it being a transmitter.

HITT: Do the police say they were making call over radio?

CLARK: They had two cars out but no action from them in that area. A fictitious call made possibly to throw them off. Call from Car "190" that a white Mustang and suspect seen going in some direction, in "such and such" a way. They had men around, but none made this particular call. We have a guy here who makes radios for unauthorized people, but we're waiting to contact him.

HITT: The Lab can give you further details and exact dimensions.

CLARK: I'll give them about an hour and call up there (would be around 10:30 A.M.).

HITT: If radio a "dummy" we'll give you a call, if commercial, we won't call. The generator is determined to be normal. The two girls names and his residence in LA appear to be the most immediate and logical solution at this time.

CONVERSATION TERMINATED APPROX. 9:45 A.M., 4/12/68.

HITT: I talked to Superintendent CLINT CHAFIN, APD, at 9:20 A.M. this date. He said he wanted me to know that after he read the article in the newspaper that the case had been reported to the FBI Wednesday night and that it had been referred to the PD, he checked all PD records and can find no record showing that this Mustang was reported to the APD Wednesday. The first report of it to the PD came on Thursday when the two ministers came to the PD and reported the Mustang.

CHAFIN also explained that the reason the FBI was notified concerning the finding of the carby another Field Division rather than the APD was the fact that APD ran an NCIC check and received a "no record". Since this did not seem right, they ran a MVB check in Alabama and Alabama, on its own, ran an NCIC, which set forth the information about the FBI's interest in this car. CHAFIN said he went back and checked the APD's original message to NCIC and found a digit from the VIN was missing from the original record and that accounts for their getting a "no record" and their not immediately reporting it to the FBI, Atlanta.

I told CHAFIN that the FBI's position in this case was "no comment" to any matters, and I would appreciate his assistance in any way.

CONTINUATION OF ASSIGNMENTS AS OF 4/12/68

SA SULLIVAN, assisted by SA SPOON, to procure daily newspapers for 4/5 and 4/6; determine personal ads for sale of cars on both dates and thereafter, make personal contact

with all persons advertising personal sales of cars to determine whether individual using name GALT, LOWMEYER or WILLARD contacted such persons re purchase of same.

At 11:30 A.M., this date, I (SAC, HITT) called J. COLE, SAC, San Antonio, and inquired as to what they found re Mustang entering into Mexico. He said car entered Mexico, 10/7/67 and person signed name as ERIC STARVO GALT, 2608 Highland, Birmingham, DOB 7/20/31, single, employed in Birmingham, Ala., destination, Mexico City. SA unable to locate departure information so far, but continuing investigation.

COLE added they had no information other than this and pointed out the "sketchiness" of Mexican records.

At 11:40 A.M., this date, I (ASAC KEITH) telephonically contacted BONEBRAKE of the Latent Fingerprint Section of the Identification Division, and requested that he compare the known prints of CHARLES BURNIE KAISER, FBI No. 10992D with the unidentified latents obtained by Memphis. BONEBRAKE stated he would advise us the results by airtel.

The Bureau telephonically contacted this office at 1:25 P.M., at which time JIM MALLEY spoke with Supv. KASSINGER as follows:

Bureau requested we make immediate check to determine whether telephone number 522-2338 was a phone number of Mrs. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Stated on confidential basis that Attorney General had received phone call requesting him to contact Mrs. KING at this phone number.

SA JIM ROSE advised that through SA SENTINELLA he had determined this number was the unlisted phone of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MALLEY so advised.

At approximately 5:55 P.M., this date, BUD LINEBAUGH called from the Bureau and advised the Bureau had received a telegram from RAY MOORE, News Director, WSB, Atlanta, recommending that the Director instruct the SAC, Atlanta to permit news media to take photographs of the Mustang. Mr. HOOVER put "NO" on incoming. LINEBAUGH called RAY MOORE at WSB and found him to be away for the weekend. He then told me (SAC, HITT) acting in his place, that this would not be done.